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Office of Innovation and Incubation  
Office of New Schools-Chicago Public School  
42 West Madison Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing this letter to express my support for the proposed Art in Motion Performing Arts Charter School, a new public charter school to be located within the Grand Crossing community of Chicago. Sponsored by the New Life Covenant Church, a legendary community institution - - this new educational facility is designed to be an expansion of the dynamic commitment to the neighborhood, by providing a safe, stimulating, clean and secure environment for its students, while fostering innovation, lifelong learning and neighborhood sustainability.

Chicago is well known for its cultural vibrancy and strong artistic vitality. This includes fostering the development of Chicago's ever-expanding arts sector, and future cultural leaders and activists, providing them with a solid academic performing arts-focused curriculum, also emphasizing all-important encouraging young people to consider future careers as independent working artists and owners of private and nonprofit arts businesses. The goal of the Art in Motion Charter School is to help develop future cultural leaders and activists, providing them with a solid academic performing arts-focused curriculum, also emphasizing all-important STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Math), as well as the Social Sciences English. This will serve as a framework to guide the City's future arts-related and economic growth and simultaneously afford our children to successfully compete on a global basis.

The Arts in Motion Performing Arts Charter School will be the only performing arts charter school on the south side of Chicago, offering a tuition-free education, initially for junior-high 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students (eventually to serve grades 7-12). This school is further developing strategic partnerships with Distinctive Schools and the Common Ground Foundation to name a few, in anticipation of opening during the fall 2018 School year.

As Alderman of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward, I am in support of the Arts in Motion Performing Arts Charter School. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Michelle Harris  
Alderman 8<sup>th</sup> Ward